

REPLACED BY  
ART 84/AMDT

communication terminal in the form of a short message service (SMS) message.

13. A free-call certificate service system comprising a  
5 free-call certificate management server including:

a free-call certificate management database for storing  
information regarding sales of free-call certificates sold to  
one or more customers, said free-call certificate sale  
information containing sub-total free-call times allocated  
10 respectively to the customers within the range of a total  
free-call time allocated from at least one communication  
company;

a free-call request information receiver for receiving  
free-call request information containing a telephone number of  
15 a specific one of said customers acquiring a specific one of  
the free-call certificates from a specific one of one or more  
customer terminals held respectively by said customers;

an authentication processor for searching the sale  
information stored in said free-call certificate management  
20 database for sale information corresponding to said specific  
customer's telephone number to determine whether the  
corresponding sale information is present in the stored sale  
information, and performing an authentication process based on  
the determination result; and

25 a free-call request information transmitter for

transmitting said free-call request information authenticated  
by said authentication processor to a communication company  
server managed by said communication company so that the  
communication company server can deduct the amount of money  
5 corresponding to an individual free-call time allocated to  
said specific free-call certificate acquired by said specific  
customer from communication fees to be charged to said  
specific customer's telephone number contained in said free-  
call request information.

10

14. The free-call certificate service system as set  
forth in claim 13, wherein said free-call certificate  
management server further includes:

15 a free-call certificate purchase request information  
transmitter for transmitting free-call certificate purchase  
request information containing said total free-call time to  
said communication company server; and

20 a free-call time allocation information receiver for  
receiving, from said communication company server, free-call  
time allocation information corresponding to said total free-  
call time contained in said free-call certificate purchase  
request information.

15. The free-call certificate service system as set  
25 forth in claim 14, wherein said free-call certificate

management server further includes:

5 a free-call certificate purchase request information receiver for receiving free-call certificate purchase request information containing each of said sub-total free-call times from each of said customer terminals; and

10 a free-call time allocation information transmitter for transmitting free-call time allocation information corresponding respectively to said sub-total free-call times contained in said free-call certificate purchase request information received by said free-call certificate purchase request information receiver respectively to said customer terminals.

15 16. The free-call certificate service system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said free-call certificate management server further includes a settlement requestor for transmitting settlement request information to at least one financial company server to request it to settle said customers' accounts for prices for purchases of said free-call certificates, respectively, and then receiving results of  
20 settlement from said financial company server.

25 17. The free-call certificate service system as set forth in claim 16, wherein said free-call certificate management server further includes:

a refund request information receiver for receiving  
refund request information containing said specific customer's  
telephone number and a returned amount of a corresponding one  
of said sub-total free-call times from said specific customer  
5 terminal; and

a refund processor for, if said authentication processor  
searches the sale information stored in said free-call  
certificate management database for the sale information  
corresponding to said specific customer's telephone number to  
10 determine whether the corresponding sale information is  
present in the stored sale information, and authenticates said  
specific customer holding said specific customer terminal as a  
result of the determination, requesting said financial company  
server through said settlement requestor to pay said specific  
15 customer a refund corresponding to the returned free-call time  
amount contained in said refund request information received  
by said refund request information receiver, and updating said  
free-call certificate management database on the basis of said  
refund request information.

20

18. The free-call certificate service system as set  
forth in any one of claims 13 to 17, further comprising said  
communication company server adapted for allocating said total  
free-call time to said free-call certificate management server  
25 and, in response to said free-call request information from

said free-call certificate management server, deducting the amount of money corresponding to said individual free-call time allocated to said specific free-call certificate acquired by said specific customer from the communication fees to be charged to said specific customer's telephone number contained in said free-call request information.

19. The free-call certificate service system as set forth in claim 18, further comprising said at least one financial company server adapted for processing the settlement associated with said free-call certificate purchase request information from each of said customer terminals.

20. The free-call certificate service system as set forth in claim 19, further comprising said one or more customer terminals, each adapted for receiving guide information about a free-call service from said free-call certificate management server and performing a telephone call using a free-call certificate issued to a corresponding one of said customers.

21. The free-call certificate service system as set forth in claim 20, wherein each of said customer terminals is a wireless communication terminal, said wireless communication terminal being any one of a mobile telephone or

PDA.

22. The free-call certificate service system as set  
forth in claim 21, wherein said free-call certificate  
5 management server is adapted to transmit said guide  
information about said free-call service to said wireless  
communication terminal in the form of an SMS message.

company so that the communication company server can deduct the amount of money corresponding to an individual free-call time allocated to the specific free-call certificate acquired by the specific customer from communication fees to be charged to the specific customer's telephone number contained in the free-call request information.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

The above and other objects, features and other advantages of the present invention will be more clearly understood from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a free-call certificate service system according to a first embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2a is a flow chart illustrating the operation of the free-call certificate service system of Fig. 1 in the case where free-call certificates are sold in a resale scheme;

Fig. 2b is a flow chart illustrating the operation of the free-call certificate service system of Fig. 1 in the case where free-call certificates are sold in a cooperative purchase scheme;

Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the configuration of a free-call certificate service system according to a second

database on the basis of the refund request information.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a free-call certificate service system comprising a free-call certificate management server including: a free-call certificate management database for storing information regarding sales of free-call certificates sold to one or more customers, the free-call certificate sale information containing sub-total free-call times allocated respectively to the customers within the range of a total free-call time allocated from at least one communication company; a free-call request information receiver for receiving free-call request information containing a telephone number of a specific one of the customers acquiring a specific one of the free-call certificates from a specific one of one or more customer terminals held respectively by the customers; an authentication processor for searching the sale information stored in the free-call certificate management database for sale information corresponding to the specific customer's telephone number to determine whether the corresponding sale information is present in the stored sale information, and performing an authentication process based on the determination result; and a free-call request information transmitter for transmitting the free-call request information authenticated by the authentication processor to a communication company server managed by the communication



JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 MAY 2009

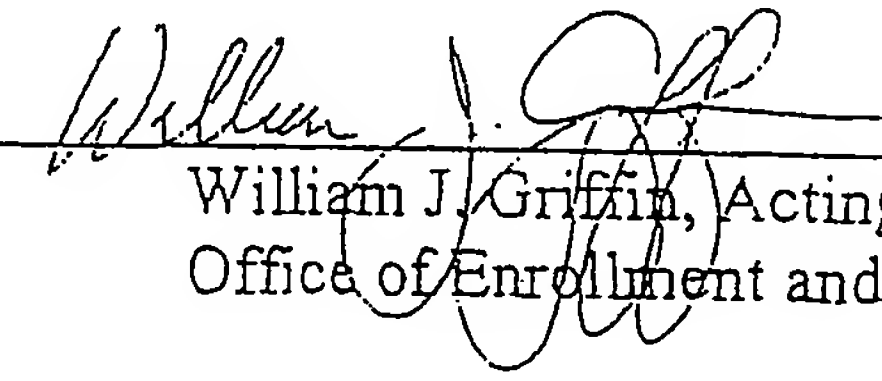
BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT AND DISCIPLINE  
UNITED STATE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIMITED RECOGNITION UNDER 37 CFR § 11.9(b)

Soonja Bae is hereby given limited recognition under 37 CFR § 11.9(b) as an employee of Cantor Colburn LLP to prepare and prosecute patent applications wherein the patent applicant is the client of Cantor Colburn LLP, and the attorney or agent of record in the applications is a registered practitioner who is a member of Cantor Colburn LLP. This limited recognition shall expire on the date appearing below, or when whichever of the following events first occurs prior to the date appearing below: (i) Soonja Bae ceases to lawfully reside in the United States, (ii) Soonja Bae's employment with Cantor Colburn LLP ceases or is terminated, or (iii) Soonja Bae ceases to remain or reside in the United States on an H-1 visa.

This document constitutes proof of such recognition. The original of this document is on file in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Expires: July 22, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William J. Griffin, Acting Director  
Office of Enrollment and Discipline